

**CITY OF BOULDER, COLORADO
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MEETING SUMMARY**

NAME OF BOARD/COMMISSION: Environmental Advisory Board

DATE OF MEETING: May 4, 2016

NAME/TELEPHONE OF PERSON PREPARING SUMMARY: Sandy Briggs, 303-441-1931.

NAMES OF MEMBERS, STAFF AND INVITED GUESTS PRESENT:

Environmental Advisory Board Members Present: Tim Hillman, Morgan Lommele, Brad Queen, Karen Crofton and Christina Gosnell.

Staff Members Present: Brett KenCairn, Casey Earp, Mackenzie Boli and Sandy Briggs

MEETING SUMMARY:

❖ **Draft Resilient Strategic Plan**

- The lack of modeling and a quantitative approach was identified, along with the need for stress tests and scenario planning.
- It was suggested that clearly capturing the identification and prioritization of vulnerabilities in the document before creating strategies for addressing them could be a more useful framework for discussion.
- The board asked about engagement and how the actions came about chronologically with results of the community risk assessment.
- The board agreed that the city should look towards creating a full Resiliency Department that isn't just a "grafting in" of a whole new mission to existing departmental structure.
- It was suggested that strategic planning around resiliency could be measured with an actuarial model.
- It was also suggested that delineating more clearly how the strategies are tied to the challenges would be helpful. This could be accomplished by placing the identified challenge icons near the descriptions of the strategies.
- Tangible first steps and clear messaging emerged as over-arching necessities.
- Case studies were suggested as a potential framework for answering the "whys" and justifying the strategies.
- The board expressed concerns about so many large initiatives losing the attention of the public and reiterated the need for clear communication from staff, consistent messaging and to facilitate the evolution of the various initiatives into a more unified approach.

❖ **Fourmile Canyon Creek CEAP Draft Document and Flood & Greenways Capital Improvement Program**

- The board found these memos difficult to parse and felt the information was too abstract for text only.
- The Greenways Advisory Committee's (GAC) EAB Representative, **M. Lommele**, may not be available to attend the GAC meeting this month and requested another volunteer.
- The board would like additional direction and visual details (photos, maps) relating to the memos in order to provide constructive feedback.
- **S. Briggs** will request this information and provide it to the board prior to the GAC

meeting in case someone is able to attend.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Environmental Advisory Board Chair **T. Hillman** declared a quorum called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by **B. Queen**, seconded by **K. Crofton**, the Environmental Advisory Board voted 5-0 to approve the April 6, 2016 meeting minutes as amended.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

4. PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

A. Draft Resilient Strategic Plan (C. Earp)

Casey Earp, Assistant City Manager, provided a broad overview of the Draft Resilient Strategy and requested board feedback on behalf of Chief Resilience Officer Greg Guibert. The open public comment period is now through May 20, there is a Council Study Session on May 26, and adoption is sought in August.

The project, started in 2014, is funded for two years by the Rockefeller Foundation through its 100 Resilient Cities initiative. Boulder was one of the first of these chosen 100 cities to proceed with writing a strategic plan.

Due to the unavoidable impacts to the community, shocks and stresses – and the linkages between them – were identified as two of the most important areas to address.

What a Resiliency Plan is NOT was clarified, and that it is a conceptual strategy that will evolve and iterate over time was emphasized.

One of the bigger challenges of the project was to create a comprehensive community assessment stemming from 18 months of public engagement.

Within the larger conceptual framework, three broad strategies for action emerged:

- Connect and Prepare
- Partner and Innovate
- Transform and Integrate

Investing in the future (called the “Frontier” in the draft document), was identified as a main point to emphasize under each strategy.

The following questions were asked of the board:

- Is anything important missing from the draft strategy?
- Are there actions that align well with your strategic roadmap?

The board’s comments are captured in the meeting summary.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Fourmile Canyon Creek CEAP Draft Document (All)

A memo was provided in the packet for board review.

The board’s comments are captured in the meeting summary.

B. Flood & Greenways Capital Improvement Program (All)

A memo was provided in the packet for board review.

The board’s comments are captured in the meeting summary.

6. OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES

- ❖ It is still to be determined what the schedule is and whether public attendance will be allowed at the Colorado Parks & Wildlife meetings regarding bear management. **S. Briggs** will determine the CPW meeting schedule and protocols and report back to the board and community members **B. Lee** and **O. Fazioni**.

7. MATTERS FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD, CITY MANAGER AND CITY ATTORNEY

- A. M. Lommele** heard from a resident who feels the County EV incentives are being incorrectly advertised as a completely funded program. There has been some confusion regarding the negotiated group purchase discount on electric bicycles and which vendors are directly involved, or not, and from where the funding comes. Brad Smith with Boulder County is the main contact regarding these incentives. **M. Lommele** will follow-up with the community member to explain.

B. Portland/Eugene Trip Report Back (B. Queen)

B. Queen shared his observations with the board and mentioned that while there was not too much about the trip that falls under the EAB's purview, it was an interesting delegation full of productive interaction.

He was impressed by Eugene City Council Member Chris Pryor, who echoed similar challenges in Eugene with what the EAB believes is a central issue in Boulder – public engagement.

Because of this connection regarding concerns about the lack of community outreach, public engagement and clear messaging, he felt making the trip was productive for not only himself, but he was also encouraged to see some of Boulder's council members engaging in discussions around the EAB's main concern.

He added that the political wrangling about the trip was way off base and he believes it served a useful and productive purpose.

C. Joint Board Open House Debrief (All)

The board discussed observations and outcomes stemming from the Joint Board Open House held last week.

The general consensus was that all the boards were receptive and appreciative, and the meeting allowed their members to conceptualize their mandates from a different frame of mind.

It was also agreed that the full measure of the meeting's success will be in the EAB's follow-up.

The overall takeaways and next steps are:

- A joint meeting of boards with overlapping purviews is recommended every year, if not more frequently, with the hosting board rotating.
- Council should mandate sustainability issues be considered by every board regularly in their day-to-day decisions.
- It would be useful to identify topics in the Climate Commitment Document specific to each board's purview that would help their members focus on those areas directly.
- A list of prioritized, overlapping, board-specific topics could be created and shared with other board's staff liaisons and secretaries for inclusion on their future

agendas for discussion and action.

- Landmarks and Planning Boards have unique challenges. The Landmarks Board charter makes energy efficient upgrades difficult to approve while still preserving historical significance. Planning Board doesn't feel they have the latitude or tools to make decisions with their own discretion since the process is driven by statute and regulation. They suggested a new approach that would include cursory, advisory reviews of projects brought before them by the EAB and Transportation Advisory Board.
- **B. Queen** will learn more about how Planning Board processes work in order to determine how the rubric might be changed.
- Each board member will prepare a proposition for what their assigned board should prioritize on its agenda and report back at next month's meeting.

8. DEBRIEF MEETING/CALENDAR CHECK

A. Boards & Commissions City Council Subcommittee meeting attendance

Any meeting from July through the end of the year is good to host subcommittee members Matt Appelbaum and Jan Burton. **S. Briggs** will inform CMO and/or invite them directly.

B. **S. Briggs** reminded the board about the Boards & Commissions Appreciation Event on May 12 from 5:30-7:30 at eTown Hall. **B. Queen** will attend but the other board members are unavailable.

C. **M. Lommele** intends to attend all meetings, only depending on the timing of her new baby's arrival.

D. **T. Hillman** will be available for the June and July meetings.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Environmental Advisory Board adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Approved:

Chair

Date